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Ohio State Engineer

Title:	Engineers in Sports
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Issue Date:	Apr-1938
Publisher:	Ohio State University, College of Engineering
Citation:	Ohio State Engineer, vol. 21, no. 5 (April, 1938), 24-25.
URI:	http://hdl.handle.net/1811/35514
Appears in Collections:	Ohio State Engineer: Volume 21, no. 5 (April, 1938)

ENGINEERS IN SPORTS

By FENWICK and FRITZ

Durwood Cooperrider

Now that the track season is under way, and all would-be track stars have been eliminated either by competition or scholastic difficulties, we find that two engineers remain to bring honor to their school. They are Durwood Cooperrider and Rollin Smith.

Cooperrider is at present a Columbus resident, but he obtained his pre-college education in Petersburg, West Virginia, where he attended St. John's Academy. Oddly enough he did not participate in track at this institution, but he proved he was an athlete by winning six letters in basketball and baseball.

After graduating he entered Capital University and majored in mathematics. He continued his athletic career by getting varsity letters in track, basketball, and football. Durwood established quite a reputation as a record breaker at Capital University. In his one year of competition he broke the school record for both the 440 yard dash and the javelin throw. In addition to this he holds the record for the longest javelin throw ever made at both Ohio Northern and Otterbein as well as the quarter mile record for several college tracks.

Apparently small colleges didn't offer enough competition, and having a desire to study engineering, Durwood enrolled at Ohio State.

So far he has done quite well. At the winter indoor meets this year he has competed in the quarter and half mile runs. As a member of the relay team he went to the Melrose Games at Madison Square Garden in New York City and helped better the mile relay record of the games by two seconds. This was a record of ten years standing, but it was again broken the same night when N.Y.U. bettered State's mark by one-tenth of a second. Ohio's time of 3 minutes 20.2 seconds was, however, the fastest mile ever run by a Big Ten team at any meet.

Because javelin throwing is essentially an outdoor sport, Cooperrider has not yet had much of a chance to show his skill in that department. His record throw is 196 feet 10 inches and 185 feet won the Big Ten meet last year, so he should apparently do very well.

Since Cooperrider was on the Capital U. track squad for one year, he is eligible for only two years of competition here. Two years should give him plenty of time to set a record or two, however.

Durwood is also very much interested in learning to be an industrial engineer. When we told him that many athletes find it too hard for them to take part in athletics and carry an engineering schedule, he made

a statement to the effect that he would never transfer from the engineering college. His exact words: "I want to be an engineer more than anything else, and I will quit track before I will change colleges." We know that Durwood is extremely interested in track, so, if his interest in engineering is even greater, surely there should be nothing to stop his attaining that ambition.

Rollin Smith

Rollin Smith came to State from Bedford, Ohio. While at Bedford High School he was captain of the football team and the track team. He won five varsity letters and led the track team to the Eastern Greater Cleveland conference title. In his last year of high school competition he took first place in the district meet in both the high and low hurdles at the state track meet.

After graduation he was offered two athletic scholarships, one to Denison and one to Ohio University, but rejected both of them. A college education didn't appeal to Smith at that time, so he decided to go to work. After several years of wage earning he felt a yearning for the sea, so he prepared to enlist in the navy. He passed the physical examination and was ready to sign his name on the dotted line, when friends induced him to change his mind and come to school at Ohio State. So, all in one breath, he gave up the idea of seeing the world through a porthole and headed for Columbus to follow a college athletic career and study engineering.

His first course of study was engineering physics, but since enrolling he has been in mine engineering, ceramic engineering, and now is enrolled in industrial engineering. Although this is only his second year in college and he has already entered four curricula, he feels that industrial engineering is the one for which he is adapted, and he hopes to graduate in the regular length of time.

The fact that Smith has sampled the curricula of so many different types of engineering may lead some to believe that he has had trouble making good grades in his courses. This is not the case, however. Although he admits that he hates mathematics, he has an accumulative point-hour ratio of 2.8, and says he could get much better grades if he had more ability as a mathematician.

As far as athletics are concerned, Rollin appears no less skilled than most college athletes. He has not demonstrated his ability on the hurdles, because his

legs are not yet in condition, but in order to work some of the kinks out of his joints, he is competing in the high jump and the pole vault.

He seems to be doing all right by himself in these events, however. Taking the Illinois indoor meet as an example, he placed third in the pole vault and third in the high jump. If he can do that well in events that he doesn't consider his specialty, then he surely should help Ohio State have a powerful squad when he starts running the hurdles.

As yet Smith has taken part in no other sports, but as soon as time will permit, he expects to go out for fencing and the pistol club. If he does, it will be the first time this year we have found an engineer who has been on more than one varsity athletic squad at the same time.

Dwight Howard, Jr.

The interview with Howard, a junior I. E., started along orthodox lines. It seems that he is a Columbus boy and a graduate of Columbus Academy. About this time he interrupted the stream of questions with the fact that he has a girl friend, according to his description, a very fair and comely lass. It was not the intention of your writers to let the fair sex enter into the conversation in such an early stage of the interview, so the questions started popping again.

Howard graduated from the Academy in 1933. He worked a year in a Columbus steel mill before entering Ohio State University. Once again the female of the species comes to the front by his bringing out the fact that the said girl was in Hollywood. It became evident that Howard was not going to let the feminine element out of the interview so it was decided to let him expand on her virtues.

Only a short time ago a scout from one of the leading film companies cast an approving glance at Miss Lender. That is her name, by the way. In due time she was situated in Hollywood 'midst Pekinese dogs and grease paint. To date she has appeared in three pictures, the latest of which is "A Star in My Kitchen." Miss Lender is also known as "Columbus' Own Sweetheart." Of course, the author of that phrase is unknown but the finger of suspicion points to a certain Buckeye swimmer. Howard likes to believe that he is number one in Mary Lou's affections. As to the veracity of this statement we can only advise our readers to ask Miss Lender.

The main reason that the honorable name of Howard adorns these pages is the fact that he is a member of the varsity swimming squad. He earned a letter last year for his work on the squad and in all probability will receive one again this year. Dwight or better still "Bud," as he is known to most people, specializes in the 220 yard and 440 yard free style events. Sports writers claim that his performance in

the Michigan meet in placing in his event was the factor that turned the tide and put the Scarlet and Gray on the road to victory.

Besides swimming, Howard is interested in many other sports. Flying, fishing, and ice skating take up his spare time. He has an amateur pilot's license, one that permits him to fly alone. He plans to get in as many flying hours this spring as he can in hopes of getting his transport pilot's license. Fishing is a hobby in which he believes everyone should indulge. In connection with his ice skating, ice hockey is his forte.

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